IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (present amendments based on the claims as amended by way of the Preliminary Amendment of January 29, 2004):

- 1-6. (Canceled)
- 7. (New) A system including an imaging means having pixels arranged in a twodimensional matrix, comprising:

pixel information addition means for combining pixel information for a number of said pixels and selectively extracting the combined pixel information,

wherein a frame rate of the imaging means is variable and dependent on the number of said pixels.

- 8. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein the system is a car-mounted imaging apparatus.
- 9. (New) The system of claim 8, further comprising:

a car driving assistance apparatus for:

rendering an image in front of a car,

based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an obstacle in front of the car, and

executing control to selectively response to the obstacle,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

10. (New) The system of claim 8, further comprising:

a car driving assistance apparatus for:

imaging an image inside a cabin of a car,

based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is

a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant
driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and
based on the determining, executing control for at least one of
burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air
bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation
of an air conditioner,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

- 11. (New) The system of claim 7, further comprising:
 - area designation means for designating at least one area in the imaging means, wherein the number of said pixels are located in the at least one area.
- 12. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the system is a car-mounted imaging apparatus.
- 13. (New) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

 a car driving assistance apparatus for:

rendering an image in front of a car,

based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an obstacle in front of the car, and

executing control to selectively response to the obstacle, wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

14. (New) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

a car driving assistance apparatus for:

imaging an image inside a cabin of a car,

based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is

a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant
driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and
based on the determining, executing control for at least one of
burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air
bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation
of an air conditioner,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.